

TEMAGAMI LAKES ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes (May 12, 2021)

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Board Attendees: Paul Tamburro, Margaret Langfitt, Terry Males, Brit Hyde, Rob Corcoran, Allan Eustis, Greg Goodman, Tarik Muzaffar

Minutes: Linda Bangay

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda:

- moved by Tarik; seconded by Terry; carried at 7:36 p.m.

2. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from March 31, 2021:

- moved by Terry; seconded by Brit; carried at 7:38 p.m.

3. Business Arising from Past Meeting:

(A) IDEAS TO MARK THE TLA'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2021

- A historical "photo essay" will be included in the Summer 2021 issue of the *Temagami Times*. TLA members will also be invited to submit stories and photos for the Fall 2021 issue.
- Anniversary banners were added to the TLA website and front page of the *Times*, as well.
- Board members are encouraged to offer other ideas.

(B) PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE:

- The Temagami Municipal Council voted to approve the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law Amendments for "Home Industry and Home Occupation" at the recent Council meeting on Thursday, May 6, 2021.
- The Town's planner explained that there were some clarifications made to the wording in response to feedback from the TLA.
- He also indicated that setback distances from previous iterations of the amendments were unchanged. For example, if someone wants to create a contractor's yard that has a setback of less than 10 m, it must be shown that this is the only suitable location for the yard. Also, if someone wants an outside storage setback of less than 15 m, it must be demonstrated that this is the only way to accommodate storage on the lot in question.
- The first public Open House for the Official Plan (OP) will be on May 25th, and an introductory meeting is scheduled for June 17th. To date, the OP is very "pro" development, with only minor considerations being made to environmental issues.

- TLA members will be urged to submit (in writing) any concerns about the OP process (and documents that have already been made available), as well as their respective thoughts re: the vision, goals, and objectives of the new OP. They will also be encouraged to attend as many public meetings as possible.
- Board members have also been asked to reach out to their personal networks to drive attendance at the meetings and increase the submission of written comments.
- The Municipality should demonstrate transparency regarding how it will categorize and address all comments.

(C) RETRIEVAL OF SNOWMOBILE FROM WATER NEAR MANITOU LANDING DOCKS:

- A snowmobile has been sitting on the Lake bottom for ~ three years – 75’ out from the boat launch at the Manitou Landing and off the corner of the fixed outer dock in about 7’ of water.
- Rob will investigate this further and will report back to the Board. He is hoping that a local contractor will assist free of charge.

(D) NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR BOARD MEMBERS:

- Unless specified otherwise, e-mail messages to Directors can be sent to tla@onlink.net.

4. New Business:

(A) 2021 FOCA AGM AND SPRING SEMINAR UPDATE:

- Rob attended the virtual FOCA AGM and Spring Seminar on March 6, 2021.
- Topics of discussion included: FOCA program updates; FOCA’s 2020-2023 strategic plan; the FOCA Achievement Award for 2020; Lake Partner Program 2021; “Green Shovels Collaborative” (phragmites control); and, Association “best practices” (including liability updates for non-profit groups).
- The FOCA budget was approximately \$390,000 in 2020 and will likely increase to \$500,000 by 2023 to accommodate new expenditures (e.g., the GM position moving from part time to full time; increase in staff wages and benefits). The additional revenues required will be generated through member-Association fees.
- A study was presented that shows the correlation between cottage prices and water quality.
- Phragmites is a concern in many areas, including Temagami. Little action is, however, being taken locally to mitigate the growth of this invasive species. The Municipality, First Nations, and all residents should be encouraged to take direct action to stop its propagation.
- An updated FOCA “toolkit” and recording of the AGM and Spring Seminar are available.

(B) HYDRO COST INCREASES:

- Hydro One will be eliminating the “seasonal-class” electricity category. Those currently in this category will be moved to one of the three residential, density-based classes. The seasonal rate class may be eliminated as early as January 1, 2022.
- Notices were recently sent to all seasonal-class customers with estimates of their average, monthly electricity use over the past 12 months (in kWh) – so, they can compare their current costs to the new, estimated rates at the same consumption level.

- Seasonal customers who will be moved to the “Residential - Low Density” (R2) class will see the largest bill impacts, with bill increases of up to 100%. This could affect some TLA members considerably. (N.B., The TLA HQ building is already in this class, so will likely not be impacted by the changes.)
- The TLA can look into some alternative energy sources (e.g., solar, wind, ground-source heating and cooling pumps), and provide relevant information to members. If TLA members wish to pursue any of these renewable-energy options, we may be able to arrange for the purchase of services en masse to reduce costs. The costs may be far less than traditional hydro, and the positive environmental impacts could be substantial.

(c) HOUSEBOAT “TOWN HALL” (MAY 17, 2021) VIA ZOOM:

- The next “Town Hall” on the topic of “Houseboats” will take place on May 17, 2021 (7:00 to 9:00 p.m.) via Zoom.
- Houseboat operators will speak about their companies (e.g., operations, economic benefits to municipality, environmental and safety considerations, licencing for renters, guidance re: considerate behaviour toward cottagers and other Lake users). They may also present video tours of their houseboats, and explain the capabilities, accommodations, and other features.
- In addition, there will be an overview of the MNRF rules for camping on Crown land on the Lake (i.e., 21-day limits, movement requirements, no camping at access points). It will be noted that nearly all of the Lake that is not private land can be camped on.
- The town hall will end with a Q & A session. Members will be asked to submit questions in advance, but there may also be opportunities for participants to ask live questions.

5. Next Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 @ 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday, July 21, 2021 @ 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

6. Motion to Adjourn: moved by Rob; seconded by Tarik; meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.